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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 6 Jan. 1950

SUBJECT Description of Zerbst Airfield and of  
Jet Aircraft Based There

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1A

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. 2\*  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. Location: ZERBST airfield (E08) lies at a crossroads 5 km NNE of ZERBST.

2. Dimensions: Could not be determined, due to stringent security measures and difficulty of access to the area.

3. Runways: One is presumed [REDACTED] and is shown at 9 on attached map. The terrain suggests that there may be another runway in a NE-SW direction, but this could not be verified.

4. Access: Thick woods make ground observation difficult. The most favorable reconnaissance point, the ZERBST-DOBBRITZ road, is closed to all traffic by a road block, torn-up surface, barricades and planks set across the thoroughfare. Regular patrols survey the field and its environs. It is rumored that K-5 and MVD personnel in civilian clothes observe all traffic.

5. Buildings: 3 hangars, 2 billet blocks, 1 block of quarters for officers, 1 officers mess, 1 command post. (See map attachment). Additional buildings may be located between hangars 5 and 6 and buildings 11 to 14, but woods prevented observation.

6. Aircraft Dispersal: In front of hangars 5 and 8. (Shown on map at "a" and "b").

7. Technical Facilities: Direction finder with 4 masts, 3 target ranges and site for assembly of fixed aircraft weapons. Aircraft appear to be fueled by truck. Tank truck [REDACTED] left the field in the direction of DESSAU (E17). There is no rail siding.

8. Defense Installations: An AA battery of three 57 mm guns is located at the southern edge of the field. They were covered with shelter halves, with leather plugs over muzzles. The guns are in fixed emplacements and they pointed at an almost vertical angle with range of fire SW. A command post is in a nearby tent. Telephone lines to the position run NW to billets in a wooded area.

9. Aircraft: There were 10 jet aircraft on the field: one on the presumed Runway, where it made several unsuccessful attempts to take off; four in front of hangar 5; and five in front of hangar 8. None of these planes was seen in flight during the observation period.

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10. Aircraft Description: The jet aircraft observed is larger than the YAK-9. Its cylindrical fuselage tapers conically toward both ends. The turbine is set in the fuselage nose, a circular opening at the nose tip forming the intake channel. Exhaust pipe is at the rear end of the fuselage. Other features are: oval, full-view turret; trapezoidal wings, rounded off at tips; noticeably high rudder assembly; retractable landing gear and nose wheel. Markings were two rings, red and blue, around the nose and the red Soviet star on the rudder assembly. One plane was painted dark green, the rest were without color.

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11. It would appear that these jets are undergoing preliminary tests at ZERBST. Traffic revealed a great assortment [REDACTED] Many car and truck occupants were officers. Jeep [REDACTED] with SAF officers left the field in the direction of DESSAU. Entering the area were officers in passenger car [REDACTED]

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12. ZERBST military installations, shown at A, B, and C on attachment, are described in the key to the map.

Enclosures: Sketch map of ZERBST airfield  
Sketch of jet aircraft seen at ZERBST

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